

The Observer

THINGS INTERESTING TO THE DEAF

VOL. 1.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1910

NO. 22

CITY AND GOVERNMENT TO AID THE N. A. D.

Colorado Springs City Council Donates \$200 for N. A. D. Convention

State Department Has Already
Officially Recognized the Con-
vention By Asking Foreign
Government to Send
Representatives

PRES. TAFT MAY BE PRESENT

Congressman Martin to Ask the Gov-
ernment for \$5,000 to Help
Along the Convention

The following is from the Colorado
Springs Herald of recent date:

"Council Donates \$200.

The city council at yesterday morn-
ing's session appropriated \$200 toward
the expenses of entertaining delegates
who will attend the World's Congress
of the Deaf in Colorado Springs next
August. The ordinance was presented
by Commissioner Himebaugh. This
meeting will be the greatest assem-
blage of the deaf in the history of the
world. Twenty-eight foreign nations
have been invited to participate."

From another issue of the same pa-
per we have the following:

"The United States government may
co-operate with Colorado Springs in en-
tertaining the delegates to the World's
Congress of the Deaf in this city next
August, by appropriating \$5,000 for
this purpose. Already the government
has officially recognized the congress
by extending, through the State De-
partment, invitations to all govern-
ments to send delegates. G. W. Ve-
ditz, of this city, who is president of
the National Association of the Deaf
and one of the most prominent leaders
of the deaf in this country, has been
notified that Congressman John I. Mar-
tin, of Pueblo, will introduce a bill at
the present session of Congress asking
for an appropriation of at least \$5,000
for the purpose above mentioned. Mr.

Martin assures Mr. Veditz that he has
talked with a large number of senators
and representatives concerning the
bill, and that it will have strong back-
ing. In his opinion it will be passed.

President Taft Invited to Attend.

"The world's congress to be held
here promises to be the largest and
most enthusiastic of the kind ever
held. Assurance has already been re-
ceived that there will be several hun-
dred delegates, representing almost
every nation in the world. Among
them will be men of international
prominence. There will be lawyers,
doctors, painters, sculptors, architects,
chemists, engineers, teachers, leaders
in the world of business, and, in fact,
men and women in every profession.
Even President Taft may attend, al-
though he has not as yet replied to the
special invitation sent him. He has
been invited to open the convention
and deliver an address to the foreign
delegates.

"The program includes the following
topics:

"The Deaf Man in the Business
World: How Best to Overcome Pre-
judice and Distrust Toward His Em-
ployment."

"The Correct Method of Educating
the Deaf: The Combined System vs.
the Pure Oral Method." (Three of the
most eminent American deaf will
champion the former, and Dr. Alexan-
der Graham Bell has been invited to
defend the latter.)

"Independent Newspapers for the
Deaf: How Best to Enlarge Their
Scope and Increase Their Usefulness."

"Homes for the Aged and Infirm
Deaf: A National Home vs. Existing
State Homes." (President G. W. Ve-
ditz of Colorado Springs will champion
the former.)

"The Deaf in Benevolent Assurance
Associations: Deaf Organization vs.
Organizations of the Hearing."

"The Union of State and Local As-
sociations of the Deaf, in National Fed-
erations."

"The Evil Effects Upon the Popular
Mind of Classifying the Deaf with the

Dependent and Delinquent Classes."

"It is proposed to take moving pic-
tures of the deliberations, which will
be in the sign language, and the films
will be exhibited in every large center
in the United States and Europe.

"An interesting feature will be an in-
dustrial exhibit in charge of Prof. War-
ren Robinson of Delavan, Wis., head of
the bureau of statistics of the National
Association. It is proposed to keep
this exhibit intact and place it perma-
nently either in the Metropolitan Mu-
seum at New York, or the Smithsonian
at Washington, as a testimonial of the
skill of the deaf as artisans and crafts-
men. No such exhibit has ever been
made and it will therefore be unique.

"Steps will be taken at the congress
to inaugurate measures to properly
celebrate the first centenary of Ameri-
can deaf mute education in 1817 by
Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, at Hart-
ford, Conn. Dr. Edward Miner Gallau-
det, president of Gallaudet College,
Washington, D. C., the only college for
the deaf in the world, is the only sur-
viving son of this founder of American
deaf mute education, and will be the
honored guest of the congress. He is
now in his 73rd year.

"Dr. Bell Invited.

"Invitations have been extended to
prominent educators of the deaf,
among them being Dr. Alexander Gra-
ham Bell, who invented the telephone
in his efforts to alleviate deafness, his
wife being a deaf mute. Dr. Bell in-
sists that speech should be made the
basis of instruction and in this he is
opposed by the educated deaf as a
unit. They maintain that speech
should be made a secondary accom-
plishment, and that education should
be effected mainly through writing
and the sign language, which are ad-
dressed to the eye direct. Speech in
itself, they contend, is nothing more
than an intricate arbitrary sign lan-
guage to those who have never heard.

"Altogether this congress will sur-
pass all preceding conventions of the
deaf in the importance of its delibera-
tions, and should result in the marked
advancement of the deaf as a class."

The paper also had a good half-tone
picture of President Geo. W. Veditz,
which we hope to secure for The Ob-
server.

FEEBLE-MINDED DEAF

In the last issue of The Observer Mr. Tillinghast asks: "Where should the feeble-minded deaf be taught?"

The feeble-minded deaf should be taught in schools for feeble-minded. But first be sure that they are really feeble-minded. That is the point.

It is a matter of record that pupils rejected as feeble-minded by the Northampton oral school and placed in a school for feeble-minded have been rescued by the Hartford school and trained into self-supporting citizens, who own their homes, have married and raised families.

They were not really feeble-minded; but because they failed to respond to the oral method they were adjudged feeble-minded.

At the Mt. Airy school, during the past four years, twenty-nine pupils have been pronounced feeble-minded, and of last year's class nearly 14 per cent. have been rejected as feeble-minded. Mr. McIlvaine admits that this proportion is "extraordinary" and that "6 or 8 per cent. is nearer the usual number."

Last summer it was announced that the Mt. Airy school was now for the first time an oral school in all departments. Is there any connection between the fact of the school being pure oral, and the "extraordinary" number of feeble-minded? It would be instructive to know what percentage of pupils were found to be feeble-minded while the Philadelphia school used the combined system. Will somebody look it up and let us know?

No child should be rejected as feeble-minded unless given a chance under circumstances more favorable to his education; and it is well known that the oral method is the most difficult for the less capable pupils. If a deaf child can be educated its proper place is in a school for the deaf. Some children are slow to develop. Association with brighter children is the best possible stimulus to bring them out. The methods of schools for the deaf should be broad enough to cover all cases. That is what the combined system does; and what the oral method does not.

If a combined system school, after doing the best it can for a pupil, finds that he is actually feeble-minded, no one will dispute the conclusion. But an oral school, giving him only a chance by the oral method, and finding him "feeble-minded"—that is a different proposition, especially in view of the Northampton cases above cited.

Schools for the feeble-minded are not properly schools in the generally accepted meaning of the word. They should rather be called homes, institutions, or asylums, for that is what they actually are. The instruction given is not to fit the pupils for the

life of the world. According to the definitions quoted by Mr. McIlvaine, and printed in the November Annals, page 445, "Feeble-mindedness is a condition, not a disease, and is incurable. Feeble-minded children cannot be trained for life in the world. They may be self-supporting, but not self-directing."

If provision is to be made for the feeble-minded deaf, let it be as a department of a feeble-minded institution. These institutions are large, often with a thousand or more inmates; are divided into groups, with separate buildings, and it would be a simple matter to arrange a department for the deaf, without making any great noise about it. If a separate school for feeble-minded deaf should be established the mention of it in public reports and newspapers would still further confuse the public, and confirm the impression already too prevalent, that the deaf are in the same class as the insane, and feeble-minded.

OLOF HANSON.

THE DEAF TAUGHT TO HEAR.

The latest fad or fake has emitted from Denver in the reported establishment of a school to teach the "rudimentary art of hearing" to the deaf. Well, what of it? If the absolute dumb can be taught to speak after a fashion, why cannot the deaf be taught to hear in some manner? Every one of us can "hear" the buzzing sound made by a phonograph by placing the tubes to the ear. After much patient effort some of us probably may be able to distinguish a few sounds and be held up as successful examples of the newest fad.

A. W. W.

BOULDER, MONTANA

Gallaudet day, the 10th of last December, was celebrated with an appropriate program by the deaf department of the Montana school; three of the senior girls, in beautiful signs, reciting poems that would have delighted the Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet could he have seen them. Two of the teachers interested the children with an account of his biography and good virtues.

During the past summer a new steel water-tank tower, 100 feet in height, similar to the one at the Missouri school, was erected at the Montana school by the Chicago Bridge & Tank Iron Works. The tank has a capacity of 50,000 gallons, the water being lifted to it by means of a system of force-pumps from a well 40 feet deep. The concrete foundations for the tower were built according to the company's blue print by deaf workmen and were pronounced by the foreman as the best he ever saw.

This pleasing bouquet is one of the many instances which shows what the deaf can do.

During the same summer a new dairy barn, 34x84 feet, to house 30 cows, was built on the ranch belonging to the school. Throughout it is up-to-date and sanitary, being provided with the James sanitary steel stalls and mangers, and the whole floor space being laid in cement.

Mr. Philip H. Brown, the instructor in carpentry, was the architect, and with the assistance of four deaf workmen he directed its construction. The barn cost about \$3,500.

Miss Anna May Wood, a graduate of the Kendall school, Washington, D. C., came up from Helena on December 31st and made a nine days' visit with Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Brown, who live only within a stone throw from the front gate of the school. Probably a very few remember that when by act of the legislature the School for the Deaf and Blind of Montana was first started in Boulder, Miss Wood was appointed its first teacher for the deaf, while Mrs. Doyle was teacher of the blind. Mrs. Cunningham held the dual position of matron and superintendent. The school then had only five deaf and four blind children. This was 16 years ago.

Mr. Robert Ryan, a graduate of the Boulder, Montana, School for the Deaf and Blind and an ex-student of class 1910 of Gallaudet college, spent Christmas week at his alma mater. He delighted the boys and girls with his interesting stories of college life. He lives in Dupuyer, in the northern part of the state, where since leaving college four years ago he worked as cowboy with one of Conrad's outfits.

Miss Edith M. Harlan of Como, Mont., another graduate of the Boulder, Mont., School for the Deaf and Blind, brought a little deaf boy, Frank Bright, to the school on the 8th of January. She spent the week visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Kemp, recently married, who occupy two furnished rooms at the Holmes house, a few blocks from the school.

B.

JANUARY
Clearance Sale
of
Suits, Overcoats
and Raincoats
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Tailored Ready Co.
4th Ave & Pike St.

PORTLAND, OREGON

The Portland correspondent has been out of town a good deal during the past two months.

Mr. Livingston has been on the sick list, but is said to be coming around nicely.

The New Year party crowd was a record-breaker, between 55 and 60 mutes being present, not counting a goodly number of their hearing friends.

The Portland society has had a great impetus during the past three months, and now numbers among its members 25 of Portland's best deaf mutes.

Vinson regrets that he was unable to stop off at Seattle on his way back from Vancouver, B. C., where he went to spend Christmas with his brothers. By a rare streak of good luck Mr. Lindstrom was on the same train going north as Vinson, bound for Tacoma, and they made arrangements so as to return on the same train. They had a few hours between trains to spend in Portland before Mr. Lindstrom's train left for Salem, and they improved the opportunity by calling on Mr. and Mrs. Hunter at Vancouver, Wash.

Last week Tony Kautz was laid up as the result of a boil on his hand. Such a small thing couldn't keep Tony from his bench very long, however, and he is busy again now.

Mr. Jacoby has not yet departed for California. He finds Portland much to his liking.

Easterners in this part of the country think the weather delightful, with the thin mantling of snow and "mild" temperature and dry atmosphere, as they say, but the native Oregonians much prefer the balmy south winds and their beloved rain.

Eddie Urban has decided not to pull his freight for Chicago until spring sets in. Come spring, and Eddie will still linger with us yet awhile. He only talks about going to Chicago when all other topics of conversation are dry.

Any of the Portland mutes desiring to have mention made of any of the local doings, to pay up their subscriptions, or anything of that kind, will have their desire gratified if they will drop a card to E. E. Vinson, 1029 E. Crouthers St., or tell Mr. or Mrs. Thierman what they want. X.

January 1st being a holiday, the Portland Deaf Mute Society held a business meeting on the eighth. The most important business transacted was an election of officers for the ensuing year.

Scribbling news for your worthy paper by a secretary of the society

of Portland and its surrounding suburbs was earnestly suggested and met with general favor.

The elected officers for this year are as follows: President, J. Reichle; vice-president, Mrs. Renna Jorg; secretary, A. VanEmon; treasurer, Mrs. J. Reichle; assistant treasurer, Rudy Spieler; doorkeeper, Joe Jorg.

Miss B. Bond, Mrs. Renna Jorg, Messrs. Johnson and Spieler were appointed by President Reichle to make preparation for celebrating Washington's birthday with a masquerade social. The committee is to exert every effort to make the occasion an enjoyable one. An admission fee is to be charged for the benefit of the society.

Miss Julia Iverson and Miss Helen Murphy were unanimously admitted as active members.

In view of the fact that Messrs. Stone and Moore, secretary and treasurer of the Y. M. C. A., are both members of the Grand Avenue Church of the Stranger, wherein a congregation of deaf usually meets each Sunday, having been so much interested in the welfare of the deaf of Portland and allowed the deaf the use of a room at the Y. M. C. A. for both literary and business meetings, free of charge in every respect, a vote of thanks was tendered to them.

The next meeting of the society occurs on the 5th day of February. This will be a literary meeting and a debate will be held on the following subject, resolved, that "Money should rather be spent than be saved."

So far as the local deaf community and vicinity are concerned, parties during the holidays were such as to be remembered for some time. The most interesting party was the Thanksgiving dinner party at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Hastings, in Arleta suburb, lasting all day and evening. Fifty cents per plate was charged, and the occasion was successfully managed by Mrs. R. Jorg and Mr. Bud Hastings.

On New Year Saturday, from 3 to nearly midnight, another entertainment at Portsmouth Hall in Portsmouth suburb, arranged by the committee consisting of Miss Ruth Thomas, Mrs. J. Reichle, Messrs. J. Reichle, Rudy Spieler and Chairman A. VanEmon, met with marked financial success. The attendance was the largest in point of number.

Prof. Divine of Vancouver, Wash., gave a new talk, followed by Mrs. J. Reichle, who gracefully signed a song. Black shadows on a cloth in three acts and "Coming Thro' the Rye," signed by Miss Ruth Thomas, were then given in succession, after which refreshments of five different courses were served. At nearly midnight they all departed for their respective homes, wishing the donor a Happy

Miss Reeves and Mr. and Mrs. Reeves, from Vancouver, Wash., spent New Years with Mr. and Mrs. R. Lines, returning home Sunday.

Mr. Delaney, of University Park suburb, with his family, has recently moved to Vancouver, Wash., just about half a mile north of the city limit and the car line terminus. They own 2 1-2 acres of their own. Their house in University Park is now for sale.

It is reported that Mr. E. E. Vinson, of athlete fame, has lately gone to Coldendale, Wash., to work as a compositor, much to the regret of the deaf here. It is hoped he will return and be among us soon once more.

W. Schneider, of Vancouver, Wash., was in this city on business Monday.

B. Hastings was down first with la grippe and afterward with pneumonia, and confined to bed for nearly a month, but is now able to be around. We sincerely hope he will be all right before long.

BUSINESS CARDS

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THE OBSERVER

SEATTLE, WASH., JANUARY 20, 1910

L. O. CHRISTENSON, Publisher.

The Observer is issued every two weeks on Thursday. It is published in the interest of the deaf everywhere.

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L. O. CHRISTENSON,
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3

The Observer is overwhelmed with copy for this issue. Many articles are set solid, which means the adding of nearly a page of reading matter.

MRS. G. W. VEDITZ SERIOUSLY ILL

A letter from Colorado advises us of the serious illness of Mrs. George W. Veditz. The many friends of both Mr. and Mrs. Veditz hope for a speedy recovery.

GOVERNMENT AID.

We remarked in our last issue that President Veditz was probably busy with some large undertaking. The article on our first page will show what he has been at. It is certainly a stupendous undertaking.

If he is successful in securing \$5,000 from the national government it means one of the greatest conventions of the deaf ever held. One that we hope will give the deaf a tremendous uplift.

Even should congress refuse to donate the \$5,000, much will still have been gained. We will have made a beginning and matters of the deaf brought before our national lawmakers as never before. That means publicity, uplifting and advance.

What's the matter with local societies and individuals everywhere writing to their congressmen and asking their support of this bill?

GIVE US LIBERTY, OR DEATH.

We are frequently told that the instructors in oral schools do not want their pupils to associate with the deaf outside of school. That they are warned against doing so.

If this is so, it is certainly on a par with the suppression of free speech, free press, etc., in Turkey, China and Russia, something abhorred by liberty loving Americans.

If oralism is a good thing for the deaf, every graduate should come out and show his kind its benefits—not hide it, like a miser his gold.

What will not bear the light of day should be, and is, looked upon with

MRS. MILLS' SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AT CHEFOO, CHINA.

Last winter the Puget Sound Association of the Deaf raised \$40, which was sent to China to aid the Chefoo school for the deaf. It is probably another fund will be raised next month for the same purpose, and we hope the deaf all over the Northwest will join with the local society in this worthy work.

The Chicago deaf recently contributed \$100, which has been sent to Mrs. Mills, who is now in New York. In a letter to Rev. Mr. Hasenstab she says:

"Yes, I am trying to raise a fund, or rather two funds; one, the income of which shall meet the salaries of the foreign teachers—we need two more—and the other to be used to meet the expenses of training teachers: then there will always be other expenses—improvements, repairs, teacher's salaries, wages, etc. For the first fund we have fourteen thousand dollars promised; for the second, I think we will get something in the way of a bequest some day, but I am not sure: then, we have several dependable scholarships. I want to get the yearly income up to five thousand dollars, if possible, so that I can give all of my time and strength to teaching and training teachers. We have a great work before us which demands concentrated effort."

A SILVER MEDAL WON.

The Washington State School for the Deaf, located at Vancouver, made a very creditable exhibit at the A.-Y.-P. Exposition, and won a silver medal. In speaking of this The Washingtonian says:

"The sewing done by the girls was the crowning glory, for a whole show case was full of their excellent work. The large model of Mead Hall, the book shelf and other work from the carpenter shop compared favorably with similar displays from hearing schools. The model of Mead Hall was made in sections, the division into rooms, halls, lavatories, etc., being complete, but we suspect few if any had an opportunity to look inside the model. The work turned out by the shoe and harness shop consisted of three sets of harness, a large shoe for a ten-foot giant and repaired shoes. The print shop had copies of The Washingtonian and examples of job work on hand. There were also a few photographs of scenes about the school.

"In recognition for our exhibit, a diploma and silver medal were awarded soon after the close of the fair last October, but we received no tangible evidence of the fact until a week ago. The medal has yet to arrive, the diploma only being in the hands of our superintendent."

The youth who was smoking a cigarette near a monkey's cage took another from his pocket. "Would it do any harm," he asked, "if I should offer him one of these?" "Not a bit," responded the attendant. "He would not touch it. A monkey is not half as big a fool as he looks."—Ex.

WILLIAM H. DEMOTTE.

William H. Demotte, an instructor in the Indiana School for the Deaf, died January 2, aged 79 years. From 1875 to 1880 he was superintendent of the Wisconsin School and from 1880 to 1882 he held a similar position in the Kansas School, while for the past ten years he has been in the Indiana School.

There is employed in the Ohio school a lady who has labored in the domestic department continuously since 1849—a period of sixty years—which is indeed a remarkable record. Though in her seventy-second year she is still vigorous in both mind and body. In length of service Miss Tillie Cannon takes precedence of every one now connected with that school, having served the school thirty-one years.—Wisconsin Times.

—Be noble! and the nobleness that lies in other men, sleeping but never dead, will rise in majesty to meet thine own.—Lowell.

THE DEAF ON THE RAILROAD.

Dean Smith, a Deaf Mute, Meets Death

A logging train at Satsop, Wash., Saturday morning, January 4th, ran into and killed Dean Smith, a deaf mute, who was on the track. His father, Frank Smith, lives at Shelton and a brother Roy Smith, lives in Seattle. The remains were interred in the Odd Fellows' cemetery, Elma.

Smith started out to walk from Satsop to Elma on the tracks of the Northern Pacific. A short distance out of Satsop a logging train emerged from a camp spur onto the main line directly behind Smith. Efforts of the train crew to warn him of his danger were unavailing. Brakes were set and every effort made to stop the train but in vain, as the train was heavily loaded and on a down grade.

Smith was struck in the back and his skull crushed. The body was taken to Satsop and Coroner Smith of Aberdeen summoned. No inquest was held as the affidavits of members of the train crew showed the accident to have been unavoidable.

Cards were found in the dead man's pockets, reading, "I am deaf. Dean Smith, Elma, Wash." Christmas postcards and souvenir cards, which Smith had been selling, were also found in the man's pockets. He was unmarried.

He was about 36 years of age. He had attended the Vancouver, Wash., and Delvan, Wis., deaf schools.

Another Case.

Henry F. Reidel, a gardener, formerly employed by E. C. Benedict and other wealthy residents of Greenwich, Conn., was struck by a trolley car on December 31st and killed. He was sixty-five years old and had been deaf for several years. It was probably due to his deafness that he lost his life.

LOCAL PAGE

NEWS IN BRIEF

—Emrel Runge's father has embarked in the real estate business.

Matt Treese now has a position with the Pioneer Printing Company on cor. Fourth Avenue and Marion Street.

M. O. Smith has a reputation as a chess player and would like to make a match with some other person to play a game by mail.

—The friends of Otto Klawitter are pleased to know that he is able to be out again. He expects to continue in the contracting business.

—Emrel Runge left for Los Angeles, California on the evening of the 10th, via the steamer President. Mr. Runge's mother is now visiting relatives in Los Angeles.

Mrs. Gustin and Mrs. Wildfang have returned from a ten days visit at Traf-ton. They missed the masquerade, but what's that by the side of real turkey, choice slices of venison, etc.?

—Alfred Waugh had a narrow escape from serious injury this week by the explosion of gasoline near which he was at work. However, a few cuts were the sole damage.

—Jake Garberson is still in Seattle. The local deaf are trying to induce him to make the ascent of Mt. McKinley. We have promised him a full page photo on the front of The Observer if he succeeds. He says he is no relative to Dr. Cook.

J. H. Langpam, recently of Seattle is now safely at his home in Hersey, Michigan. He went by way of Portland, Omaha and Chicago. He still has a love for Seattle and hopes to return here. He may attend the N. A. D. next summer at Colorado Springs.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The next meeting of the Puget Sound Association of the Deaf will be held February 6th, at Labor Temple. The annual election of officers takes place. As yet we have heard of no electioneering. There will probably be little contest.

CHURCH SERVICE.

The usual service for the deaf was held last Sunday at Trinity church. Olaf Hanson gave a good talk on the life of Saul and David. When these services were first started it was predicted they would soon fail to draw the crowd, however, the contrary has proven true, there is always a good attendance, over thirty being present at last meeting.

MAGAZINES.

Ladies' Home Journal, \$1.50 per year; Saturday Evening Post, \$1.50 per year; Woman's Home Companion (subject to private offer), \$1.50 per year; Delineator \$1.00 per year; and magazines in Club. Mabel E. Slegel, 5602 South Cedar St., Tacoma, Wash.



The above is a view of the residence of Albert W. Wright, at 1728 East Sixty-second street, Seattle. It is a nine-room modern house, with basement. Mr. Wright came to Seattle about 8 years ago empty-handed. By strict attention to business he now owns the above fine home as well as real estate elsewhere in the State. He is a level-headed and pleasant gentleman, such as one likes to meet. He has a most estimable wife (formerly Miss Wade) and five children. This residence was constructed last year from plans drawn by Olof Hanson.

It Was Right---Not Wrong

Last Saturday about thirty of the Seattle deaf accepted the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Wright to spend the evening socially at their pleasant home. The waxed oak floors decided what form the evening's amusement was to take, and dancing was soon in full swing. The waltz and two-step were the favorite dances, though every other step known to those present was tried, too. Mr. Smith gave an exhibition of Danish dancing, Mr. Harris of a jig, Miss McLaughlin of a gypsy dance, and Miss Hilda Peterson led in a German dance. The good old Virginia reel was not forgotten. Mr. Christenson had an ingenious little scheme of numbers printed on a card and hidden by small ribbons. Each guest pulled off a ribbon, and discovered from the number beneath how many pennies he or she would have to pay into the treasury of the P. S. A. D. Three dollars was netted by this plan. The profiles of nearly all present were privately drawn, one at a time, by Miss Coan, and then they were exhibited and identified by the crowd. Mr. Gustin's was the hardest to guess. Coffee, sandwiches and cake were passed, and about midnight the company dispersed. Every one had a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Deaf Mute Wrestlers.

Under this head the last issue of The Observer had a write-up of three silent mat artists.

It is to be regretted that they overlooked such a luminous light among the silent grapplers as T. S. Williams, Gallandet, '08. I state without hesitation that Williams, better known to his intimate friends as Don Tomuel, and among the sporting writers of Baltimore and Washington as "The Book-Taught Bilikins," is the king pin of them all.

He possesses about a dozen medals from the welterweight division up, and also has an enviable record as a professional, being considered the best welterweight in the South. He could eat the three wrestlers mentioned in the previous issue alive and note notice it. He has already chawed one of them (Vinson) up considerable. 'Tis true that he was chawed a little in return, but it didn't amount to much.

Then there is Mosey, of Wyoming, a clever lightweight and holder of the championship of the District of Columbia in that division.

Gilbert Erickson is also some wrestler. He, like Mosey and Vinson, is a disciple of Don Tomuel. He is a light heavyweight.

There is also a deaf mute at Harvard college, Osgood, I think his name is, who is touted as a comer.

The deaf as wrestlers are a success, and inasmuch as it is a good, clean game, and a wonderful developer of both body and mind, it should be encouraged among the schools.

The Vancouver school has taken a step in the right direction, and the superintendent, Thos. P. Clarke, has announced it as his intention to have a first-class mat constructed, when classes in wrestling will be organized. V.

Follow the Deaf to PEARSALL'S CAFETERIA

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SPOKANE, WASH.

That Debate.

The debate scheduled for the evening of January 15th was the feature of the meeting of the Spokane association. It occurred in one of the large rooms at the Blair Business College. The subject was: "Resolved, That the city authorities were right in handling the members of the I. W. W. severely." The affirmative side was supported by Mr. Axling and Mr. Patterson, while Mr. Fulmer and Mr. Curl opposed them.

The judges, Mr. Arnot, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Slightam, retired after the debate to arrive at a verdict, and soon returned with the announcement that the affirmative side was entitled to the laurels.

Although the time limit fixed was rather short, all things considered, the debate was greatly enjoyed by those present. Some of them expressed the wish that we would have another debate at no distant future.

The balance of the time was devoted to business matters, the regular meeting for January 1 having been postponed to the 15th. The principal matter considered was the coming visit of Supt. Clarke, of the school at Vancouver. Ways and means for raising the funds that will be needed to defray expenses were discussed pro and con. The entertainment committee was practically made a committee on ways and means, and will be assisted by all the members of the association. Several excellent plans were suggested and three or four of them will be carried out, with the expectation that the funds we receive will exceed the amount really necessary.

Mr. Robert Paterson was unanimously admitted into the association as a regular member.

Supt. Clarke Coming.

Word has been received from Supt. Clarke that he will be in Spokane on February 25 and 26, accepting the Spokane association's invitation to lecture before us at our Washington's Birthday celebration. The announcement has created a deal of interest in the city and among all who know of it. Letters are coming from outside parties, stating that the writers and their friends will be here at the time.

The local committee, through Supt. Clarke's suggestion, will make arrangements for him to deliver a lecture before an assembly of hearing people, composed largely of school teachers, this lecture to be given Friday evening, February 25, and to treat of the deaf, their education and the state school at Vancouver. A few exercises by some of the local deaf will also be arranged for, thus giving the people an opportunity of getting better acquainted with the deaf and what they can do.

News Notes.

Miss Amelia Bergerson, a student at the state school for the deaf, spent the holiday vacation with her parents in Spokane. The evening before her departure for Vancouver, her home was the scene of a most enjoyable party, to which she had invited a few of her friends.

Miss Elmyra Ford has left Spokane for the time being, and is now at her mother's home in Tekoa. She says she will be back in Spokane before February 26, to meet Supt. Clarke and take part in the exercises at the lecture before hearing people.

Mr. Frank Banister has moved his bungalow off Clyde Patterson's lot on

to the lot he recently purchased on Gordon avenue. Clyde has been viewing his bare lot with a forlorn feeling—and rumors have gone abroad that he intends to build before very long.

The new Bertram bungalow on Lincoln Heights is nearing completion. The reporter has not seen it for a good while, but has been told now and then of the progress that is being made on it. What looks suspicious is that now and then a piece of furniture wends its way out there.

Clyde Patterson has secured his old job at the Ideal laundry, and the proprietors tell him that since he has taken unto himself a better half he can have the job for life.

Little Amy Bergh has had to forego the pleasure of attending meetings and parties of late. She got a flexible flyer from Santa Claus and a day or two after she also got a severe attack of sore throat, on account of "flying" too much in wet snow. By the way, Amy's mother will be remembered by many Eastern deaf as Miss Belle Bailey, from Minnesota and Wisconsin. There are also quite a few out West who will recognize the name, and she would be pleased to hear from any of them. Her address is Mrs. A. C. Bergh, E. 2207 Glass avenue, Spokane.

The home fund of the State Association has received a remittance of \$3.00 from the Spokane Association, and will soon receive \$2.30 more, this being its quota from the net proceeds of the Spider Web party, New Year's eve.

VANCOUVER, WASH.

The smiles noticed on the faces of the people at the school during the holidays is good evidence that they had a pleasant time.

Knowing Mr. Schneider's fondness for apple pie, Santa Claus left one on the tree for him Christmas eve. Our friend lost no time in going to his room and devouring it before we had a chance to ask for a bite.

Supt. Clarke recently delivered an interesting lecture before a gathering of educators and citizens at the Auditorium in Vancouver high school. He spoke on the education of the deaf, and a large crowd was present to hear him.

Mr. Hunter busied himself in the carpenter shop part of the time during the holidays making pieces of furniture for his house.

Mr. Clarke has staked out golf links on the front lawn and is teaching Mrs. Clarke and a few friends how to play the game.

The cold weather furnished us a lot of sport during the holidays. The pond was frozen over to a safe thickness to permit skating and sliding on the ice. A good many fancy skaters were attracted and joined in the fun.

A bon-fire on the bank furnished light and warmth for night skaters.

As is usually the case at this time of the year, the Columbia at this point is full of ice and the ferryboat out of commission. But thanks to the railroad bridge, which can be used in cases of emergency.

The basketball team of the Oregon School for the Deaf came up from Salem on the 8th and played a game with the boys of the Washington school. The game was hotly contested but the Washington boys won out in the last minute. A return game will be played at Salem some time in the near future and both teams are determined to win.

The friends of Mr. and Mrs. McDonald will be sorry to learn of the death of their little son, George, which occurred on the morning of Dec. 24th. The funeral was held on the 26th. Friends at the school contributed two pretty floral wreaths to place upon the casket, and every one turned out in a body to accompany the cortege to the cemetery.

Supt. Clarke was presented with a handsome solid oak Morris chair Christmas. It was the gift of his teachers, officers, pupils and employees. This will give him some comfort during his leisure hours, and it most certainly assures him of a loyal household.

Supt. Clarke had a moving picture machine in operation nearly every evening during the holidays for the amusement of the pupils. The children enjoyed the treat immensely.

The deaf boys defeated the Christian Brothers' Business College of Portland in a game of basketball on Dec. 31st. A large crowd was attracted to the gym, and was treated to a lively game, the score being 24 to 16.

Mrs. Divine had charge of Mr. Divine's classes during his illness recently. As Mrs. Divine has had considerable experience in this line of work she needed no assistance. We will vouch for it that after having been an assistant in charge of a farm east of our school for four years, she could also drive a four-mule team without any great difficulty.

Miss Sampson wished very much to make The Observer a call during the holidays, but the little tots needed too much watching to allow her this privilege.

The new water plant is now being placed in position at the school. Many of the boys, from the eldest down to the youngest, are out inspecting the machinery daily. This is certainly encouraging. If we could induce pupils to show just such eagerness for things which are given them as a means of knowledge as they do for the machinery now lying outside the boiler-room at the school they would be amply paid in knowledge for the trouble.



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LOS ANGELES, CAL.

E. M. Nowell left here for Redlands two weeks ago, where he works for his uncle. We miss him very much.

Herbert E. Ellis and family are comfortably on their own five-acre ranch at Long Beach.

Thomas Marsden, from Indiana, lives with his wife in Pasadena. He is a polishing buffer by occupation in Los Angeles. He rides on his "slavery" wheel to and fro daily.

Abraham Himmelschein is employed at the Electric Industrial Manufacturing Co.'s shop on Stanford avenue.

Mrs. Herbert Ellis parents, having spent about two months with them at Long Beach, returned home to Nebraska lately.

Mrs. Saxton Gilmore's parents and their children from Vermont, arrived at this city January 7th for the purpose of visiting for the winter. They admire this lovely climate and country.

Miss Mary Hingsten is doing fancy sewing for the father of Abe and Simon Himmelschein at his store.

Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Regensburg of Venice-by-the-Sea entertained a party of their friends from this city at whist and other enjoyments on New Year's evening at their home in honor of the Misses Bessie Taylor and Kent. Choice refreshments were served in style. Milton Miller was awarded a prize for excellent playing. The party broke up at 11:30. All reported a jolly time.

Clemence Myers and Otto Hellstrom, hailers from the "Sucker State," have been here three weeks, looking for jobs in vain. They like the delicate climate first rate.

A. M. Amundsen received a precious gold watch with a stylish and beautiful charm as Christmas gifts from his master of the Hartsook Studio, for whom he has worked very faithfully the past year. He is a retoucher by trade. He also gets a raise in wages under a contract.

Oscar H. Regensburg is an A. M. degree graduate of Gallaudet College. Mrs. Josephine Regensburg, Miss Bessie Taylor and Messrs. C. M. Nowell, E. M. Price and J. Orrie Harris are ex-Gallaudets.

Mrs. Omar L. Smith was confined to bed with fever and rheumatism for over three months. She is getting better. We hope she will recover rapidly.

Mr. Armstrong has suffered from muscular rheumatism in his legs severely for many weeks. He is alternately better. He has a big four-apartment house, which he and his hearing son built last year.

Mr. and Mrs. U. S. Cool reside in a beautiful house of their own construction on South Chicago street. Mr. Cool is a good builder.

Leonard B. Cartwright of San Diego was married to Miss Maggie McLean of Fresno last January 3rd at the bride's home. They stopped off at Los Angeles on their way home to San Diego, Jan. 4th, to call on several of his friends. The groom is a blue print artist by trade. We extend to them our best congratulations and wish them a happy and prosperous life.

Miss Jessie Woodburn is employed at the Times office building as a city directory writer.

Bert Ellis, A. M. Amundsen, Abe Himmelschein and Frank Ellis send in their subscriptions to The Observer. It shows that they consider it valuable and interesting to read. The articles, editorials, clean discussions and doings of the popular deaf are well writ-

ten up. More and more should take it for good on the Pacific Coast.

The wedding bells will ring in Los Angeles soon, it is rumored.

The Club Amapola had a quiet election at the special business meeting for the board of directors for the year 1910, on the 16th of December last. Those who were elected are as follows: Milton H. Miller is the new president; Clarence H. Doane, vice-president; J. Orrie Harris, secretary; Simon Himmelschein, treasurer, and Oscar H. Regensburg, director. They took their offices at the business meeting on January 6th. The literary auxiliary elected as follows, December 18th: President, Mrs. O. H. Regensburg; vice-president, Arthur Nolen, and secretary, Mrs. L. Wormstaff. They assumed their new duties on Saturday night, January 8th. At this meeting Mr. Doane spoke to the members and ladies on the subject of "Mark Antony's Cration at Caesar's Funeral," and "Pointers on Napoleon, the Greatest General of France." It was very good. Others gave some facts about them. The next program was announced for January 29th. Mr. Norman V. Lewis will give a lecture on "His Travels," Mrs. Andrews on "Dialogue," and Miss Ella Roy on "Declaration." All are welcome, at 8 p. m.

The Club Amapola voted Jan. 6th to entertain a masquerade party at a selected hall on February 19th, under the management of the new entertainment committee.

A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Westcott last December. Congratulations are extended to them.

Nine persons who made up a party Jan. 9th to climb Mount Wilson, 6,000 feet above the sea, were as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Mills, Messrs. Depew, A. Nolen, Diekoff, Schausler, Myers, Marsden and S. Himmelschein. They reported a grand time and good dinner.

An entertainment was given to a party of deaf and hearing people in honor of Leon Fisk on his birthday at Mills' home last December 17th.

A whist play was held by a party of deaf on Christmas evening at Mills' home, under the management of Mrs. U. S. Cool. Fruits and mixed candy were served. A splendid time was had.

August Koberstein leaves here for Seattle today. He states that he likes the climate here; thinks it the finest he ever felt.

William Armstrong is building a house on South Flower street near Vernon avenue with intention of selling the same. His son helps him do carpentering.

On account of the delay of the mail, the Los Angeles Division No. 27 of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf was born at Bro. Ellis' place, with Organizer J. Orrie Harris in the chair, on the night of December 12. The following officers were elected: President, Milton M. Miller; vice-president, Frank E. Ellis; secretary, J. Orrie Harris; treasurer, Simon Himmelschein; director, Henry L. Fritz; sergeant-in-arms, Abe Himmelschein; trustees, Price, Amundsen and Dyson. state organizer, Oscar H. Regensburg.

THAT'S RIGHT, GIVE THOROUGH INSTRUCTION.

The Missouri Record, in speaking of industrial training, says:

"In the printing department a chart made up of pictures from a type and machinery catalog gets its share of attention every day and instead of signs for different things, finger spelling or the spoken words are used. Signs are used as a last resort. Shop talks are given every little while, and in every possible way our boys are being prepared for work in 'hearing shops.' The same plan, practically, is used throughout our industrial department."

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"FEEBLE-MINDED" DEAF ARE --- WHAT?

Editor Observer:

In the current issue of The Observer, received today, Mr. E. S. Tillinghast asks a number of interesting questions relative to the subject of the "feeble-minded deaf."

I will answer these questions by asking another: What and who are really and truly "feeble-minded" DEAF?

Mr. Tillinghast states that for every deaf child in our population there are at least two feeble-minded, and that most of these are more or less dumb, or so deficient in speech as to be considered admissible to a school for the "deaf and dumb."

These unfortunates, who can hear but not speak, are not true deaf mutes at all. They are hearing persons with their brain functions so stunted by shock, disease or otherwise as to be imbecile rather than feeble-minded. They are proper objects for a school for feeble-minded hearing children. I cannot recall that there was anything in Mr. McIlvaine's article to lead to the inference that he had such cases in mind. His article to all intents and purposes concerned "feeble-minded" deaf mutes and not feeble-minded hearing mutes.

On the supposition that the "twenty-nine" were deaf mutes, I must repeat my disbelief that they were true cases of feeble-mindedness. If they were hearing mutes Mr. McIlvaine should have so stated. I must also reiterate my disbelief that one-eighth of all the 1,400 deaf mutes admitted annually to our schools are "feeble-minded." There are assuredly that many slow and backward children; in fact, I should increase the proportion to one-fourth or more. But these slow and backward pupils can not, except in a few cases, be classed as feeble-minded. A dunce is not necessarily an idiot.

During my connection of fourteen years with the Maryland School I met many cases of dunces. There were two cases I can recall of hearing mutes who were dismissed after a short time, and there was one genuine case of feeble-mindedness. This last was as deaf as a post, in the beginning slaving at the lips, crawling upstairs on all fours—an out-and-out Caliban in face and form—but yet there was an innate gentleness and docility that made this poor step-child of Mother Nature the adoring devotee of his teachers, that trained him into quite a capable domestic handy-man and that gave him a command of English exceeding that of the Thames waterman, whose vocabulary Max Muller tells us, was limited to one hundred words, but who was, nevertheless a citizen of the British empire.

What became of this case I do not know. He dropped out of sight on leaving school, but those who knew him have kindly memories of this poor uncouth specimen of humanity.

I am unable to concede that the Pennsylvania twenty-nine were of this description—unless, indeed, they were hearing mutes—they were slow of perception and incapable of education by any but the manual method. Improper methods can as surely ruin a child mentally and morally, whether

deaf or hearing, as will continual tapping on the head with a club. Who does not recall Dickens' infamous Dotheboys hall with its cowering travesties of childish humanity, and above all, poor, abject Smike? Poor, abject Smike, who entered this pest-hole with as bright a dower of brain and heart as his more fortunate cousin! Do not object that this was fiction, for it was fiction founded on fact.

My conviction, and I believe it is shared by the great body of educated deaf, is that the employment of the speech method with slow and backward deaf mutes is a crime. It virtually converts them into feeble-minded derelicts, stunted mentally, morally and physically. To apply this method in such cases is equivalent to misappropriating the funds of the State, not to mention the fact that the State is deprived of what might have, by another method, developed into an independent producer instead of a dependent consumer.

My belief is, further, that under present practices, the same stigma adheres to combined system as well as to pure oral schools. The rule (in the former) is to put every child in an oral class, keep it there two or three years until it is proved beyond peradventure which can and which cannot profit by the oral process; and meanwhile those that cannot profit are brought perilously near the borderline of feeble-mindedness. Their faculties have been crushed rather than unfolded.

Why Not Reverse the Process?

Your professed object, Messieurs Superintendents and Teachers, is to educate the deaf mute children sent you, to develop them to the limit of their capacity. But it would seem that not a few of you interpret education to be the acquisition of English, and of spoken English at that.

Why Not Reverse the Process?

Why not put every child upon admission in a manual class and NOT in an oral class? Why not use every means for the first two or three years to develop its dormant faculties, dormant because lacking means of expression and conception, its faculties of observation, of thought, of memory, of imitation? Galvanize the childish mind into full activity by every stimulant possible, and notably by using the sign language with unfettered hand?

I fully believe—I can almost guarantee—that when at the end of two or three years the children are put into oral classes each and all will respond many times more readily, and even the backward ones will acquire an equipment of speech and lip-reading they can not possibly get under the procedure now prevailing. My contention is borne out by the circumstance that deaf children of deaf parents who come to school with a knowledge of signs to the manor born, and with a host of ideas and conceptions acquired by its means make remarkably efficient articulators and lip-readers.

The moral is obvious: The surest way to produce normality in a child is to give it full opportunity to develop in the way nature has provided. Repression spells perversion, and in the case of the oral method is responsible for "feeble-minded" deaf.

Why not try the innovation in your school, Mr. Tillinghast, provided, of course, your angle of vision is the same as mine?

GEORGE WM. VEDITZ.

Colorado Springs, Col., Jan. 11, 1910.

TACOMA, WASH.

Miss Slegel says she had a perfectly lovely time in Seattle the first week of the New Year. "Wherever I was invited to dine, they had chicken," she says. If that's a hint to us, we aren't going to take notice, as our chickens are too busy laying eggs for us to lay for them.

Otha Minnick has had several attacks of rheumatism this winter. He is now up and around, but has to keep dry all winter. The doctor says "M. D." stands for "Mighty Dry." Otha thinks.

Mrs. Hutson spent Thursday with Mrs. Seeley. Mrs. Seeley regaled her on clam soup and an account of the masquerade in Seattle New Year's eve. "And how was the snake charmer dressed? I've seen all sorts of costumes, but never that." Mrs. S. regretted to say that, as a matter of fact, there was no snake charmer in evidence at the masquerade, the lady credited with that fascinating costume not having even masked. Perhaps she charmed the editor, and he may know what he was about in giving her that title, but we common mortals have no right to draw conclusions.

Mrs. H. was very much relieved, as she had been worrying over all she had missed in not being there.

Miss Burnett has gone to stay for some time with her sister at Prescott. Her father is one of the striking switchmen, and until the strike is over their home is broken up.

Every deaf person in town, with one or two exceptions, attended the special meeting held at the home of Dwight and Sidney Chase on Sunday, January 16th. The by-laws of the club were passed upon and the organization now seems an assured success. Seventeen members are now enrolled. They are Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Wade. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hammond, Mrs. Hutson, Mrs. Seeley, Miss Slegel, Miss Demarri, Messrs. Albert and Otha Minnick, Dwight and Sidney Chase, John Thomas, John Moore, Will Rowland, Ray Foster, Maurice Miller. A very pleasant social was held after the business part of the meeting was over, and refreshments were served in the evening. A vote of thanks was tendered the hosts, Dwight and Sidney Chase, for the pleasant time we had. It was decided to hold some sort of entertainment on Washington's Birthday, or rather Saturday evening, February 19th. The Wades kindly offered the use of their house for that purpose. The exact nature of the entertainment will be decided at the next regular meeting, to be held the last Sunday of this month at the Wades.

Mr. Thomas is now wearing his bronze medal won at the wrestling tournament, December 11th, 1909. We hope he will keep right on winning fame as a wrestler.

Messrs. Rowland and Thomas report having seen a fir tree growing apparently out of a solid rock. Let us hear from some of the L.L. D.'s concerning that.

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